

Message Text

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AMEMBASSY ATHENS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

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C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 744

ASWAN FOR SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNSC, CY

SUBJ: CYPRUS IN SC: MARCH 8 CONSULTATIONS

REF: USUN 742 (NOTAL)

1. AFTER DAY OF CONSULTATIONS WHICH SAW HARDENING OF PARTIES' POSITIONS, SC DECIDED TO ADJOURN FURTHER DELIBERATIONS UNTIL AFTERNOON MARCH 10.

2. GROUP CONSULTATIONS MORNING MARCH 8 CENTERED ON ISSUE OF SYG'S CHAIRMANSHIP OF RESUMED COMMUNAL NEGOTIATIONS. SC PRESIDENT BEGAN BY INFORMING MEMBERS THAT CYPRIOTS WOULD NOT RETURN TO NEGOTIATIONS UNLESS RESOLUTION EXPLICITLY STATED THAT TALKS WOULD BE UNDER CHAIRMANSHIP OF SYG, WHILE TURKS WERE EQUALLY ADAMANT THAT THEY WOULD HAVE NOTHING TO DO WITH NEGOTIATIONS PRESIDED OVER BY SYG.

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3. FRENCH SAID THEY STILL SUPPORT INCLUDING REFERENCE TO SYG

CHAIRMANSHIP IN TEXT OF RESOLUTION RATHER THAN IN ACCOMPANYING STATEMENT BY SC PRESIDENT. THEY WERE STRONGLY SUPPORTED BY USSR AMB MALIK, WHO SAID COUNCIL MUST EXPRESS ITS OWN OPINION AND NOT ALLOW ITSELF TO BE DICTATED TO BY THE PARTIES. AMB SCHAUFLE SAID THAT MOST COUNCIL COULD HOPE FOR WAS ACQUIESCENCE OF PARTIES, AND ONE WAY OF GETTING AROUND THEIR PRESENTLY INFLEXIBLE POSITIONS MIGHT BE A CAREFULLY WORDED STATEMENT BY SC PRESIDENT. TANZANIAN AMB SALIM SAID NON-ALIGNED HAD ALWAYS ASSUMED, WHILE CONSULTING ON DRAFT RESOLUTION, THAT SYG WOULD PRESIDE OVER TALKS. TURKS HAD NOT CHALLENGED THIS ASSUMPTION. HE BELIEVED TURKISH SIDE MIGHT AGREE TO FORMULA OF RESUMING NEGOTIATIONS "UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE SYG WITH THE CONSENT OF THE PARTIES CONCERNED." FRENCH AND ITALIANS SUGGESTED INCLUDING THIS FORMULATION IN RESOLUTION ITSELF. AT US SUGGESTION CONSULTATIONS ADJOURNED WITH SC PRESIDENT TO CONSULT WITH PARTIES ON TANZANIAN FORMULA.

4. WHEN CONSULTATIONS RESUMED LATE AFTERNOON SC PRESIDENT FACIO REPORTED THAT THERE WAS NO CHANGE IN PARTIES' POSITIONS, EXCEPT THAT TURKISH POSTURE HAD IF ANYTHING HARDENED. TURKS WERE NOW SAYING THAT SYG MIGHT OCCASIONALLY TAKE PART IN RESUMED NEGOTIATIONS, BUT NOT FORMALLY PARTICIPATE MUCH LESS PRESIDE OVER THEM. MEANWHILE, CLERIDES SAID HE COULD NOT ACCEPT MERE PARTICIPATION OF SYG. IF CYPRIOTS WERE TO RETURN TO COMMUNAL TALKS, WALDHEIM WOULD HAVE TO BE IN CHAIR. FACIO SAID CLERIDES HAD TOLD HIM CYPRUS WOULD BE HAPPY WITH A RESOLUTION WHICH TURKS WOULD NOT ACCEPT; THEY WOULD SIMPLY WAIT UNTIL TURK SIDE WAS READY TO COME TO TALKS UNDER SYG'S CHAIRMANSHIP. AS FOR TANZANIAN RESOLUTION WORDING, TURKS REJECTED IT, WHILE GREEK SIDE DISLIKED IT BUT DID NOT FINALLY REJECT IT.

5. AMB SCHAUFLE REITERATED THAT COUNCIL'S MAJOR CONCERN MUST CONTINUE TO BE AGREEMENT OF BOTH SIDES TO RESUME TALKS. A HARDENING OF POSITIONS WAS CLEARLY TAKING PLACE ON BOTH SIDES, WITH EMOTIONS AND PRESTIGE BECOMING INCREASINGLY INVOLVED IN THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS. ANY ACTION BY SC NOW WOULD CLEARLY BE SHORTSIGHTED AND PRECIPITATE. AS DIPLOMATS ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS KNEW THAT SOME PROBLEMS TAKE LONGER

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TO NEGOTIATE THAN OTHERS. QUESTION WE WERE SDEALING WITH HAD BEEN A CHRONIC PROBLEM FOR OVER TEN YEARS, AND COUNCIL SHOULD BE PATIENT FOR A FEW MORE DAYS. DURING THIS SLIGHT COOLING OFF PERIOD, MEMBERS AND PARTIES COULD CONSULT FURTHER WITH THEIR GOVERNMENTS AND AMONG THEMSELVES.

6. DURING EXTENDED DEBATE WHICH FOLLOWED, US POSITION WAS SUPPORTED BY UK, ITALY, IRAQ, TANZANIA, SWEDEN, AND

CAMEROON, AND OPPOSED BY USSR, FRANCE AND MAURITANIA. OTHER MEMBERS DID NOT SPEAK. MAIN ARGUMENT OF THOSE OPPOSED TO COOLING OFF WAS THAT SC SHOULD NOT ALLOW PARTIES TO EXERCISE VETO POWER OVER ITS DECISIONS. COUNTER-ARGUMENT, PUT FORWARD BY US AND UK, WAS THAT COUNCIL'S PRESTIGE WOULD BE EQUALLY IMPAIRED SHOULD IT ADOPT RESOLUTION THAT IT KNEW WOULD NOT BE IMPLEMENTED. IT WAS CLEAR COUNCIL HAD RESPONSIBILITY TO ACT BUT AFTER TWENTY DAYS' NEGOTIATIONS, FEW MORE WOULD NOT HURT.

7. FACIO SAID HE INTERPRETED CONSENSUS OF COUNCIL TO FAVOR BRIEF DELAY BEFORE TAKING FURTHER ACTION. CONSEQUENTLY, HE SCHEDULED NEXT CONSULTATIONS FOR AFTERNOON MONDAY, MARCH 10.
SCHAUFEELE

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